

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and remarks that follow are responsive to the Office Action dated July 10, 2008. In the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledged Applicant's election without traverse of Group II, Claims 18-34, in the reply filed on April 22, 2008. The Examiner also objected to Claims 18-34 because of minor informalities. Claims 18-34 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner further rejected Claims 18-34 under 35 U.S.C § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,402,852 to Feldbauer.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM OBJECTIONS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claims 18-34 because of minor informalities. In particular, the Examiner noted three objections with Claim 18. The first objection related to the language "previous claims" included in Claim 18. By this response, Applicant has deleted the phrase "previous claims" to place Claim 18 in a more proper independent form.

The second objection noted by the Examiner was in relation to the phrase "said scale" in section (e) of Claim 18, for lacking antecedent basis. Applicant has amended the language of section (e) to delete the phrase "at least," which was recited immediately before "said scale." In this manner, Applicant submits that the "said scale" has sufficient antecedent support in the preamble of Claim 18, which recites "a scale."

The third objection listed in relation to Claim 18 pertained to the term "said delivery flow," which the Examiner claimed did not have sufficient antecedent support. Accordingly, Applicant has deleted such language from the claim.

In addition to the objections noted in relation to Claim 18, the Examiner also objected to the term "said overpressure areas" in Claim 21, as not having sufficient antecedent support. Therefore, by this response, Applicant has amended Claim 21 to recite that "the pressure oscillations include overpressure and depressions areas," which Applicant submits provide sufficient antecedent support for the phrase "said overpressure areas."

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that all of the Examiner's objections have been overcome.

RESPONSE TO 35 U.S.C. § 112 REJECTIONS

The Examiner rejected Claims 18-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner indicated that the terms "comprised in the range from" in Claim 18 renders the claims indefinite because the term "comprised" allows for other, unnamed ranges beside that recited. Furthermore, Claims 26, 29, and 30 were rejected because they include the term "comprised between."

By this response, Applicant has deleted the word "comprised" in the above-mentioned claims to more accurately recite ranges included in the Claims. Therefore, Applicant believes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is overcome.

RESPONSE TO 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) REJECTION

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 18-34 as being anticipated by the Feldbauer reference. Applicant submits that for the following reasons, the Feldbauer reference does not disclose all of the limitations of amended Independent Claim 18.

Applicant has amended Claim 18 to specify the characteristics of the gas flow. In particular, Claim 18 recites that there is provided pressure oscillations and amplitude of pressure having the features of gas-solid velocity greater than 5 m/s, shear stress between 0.03 and 5 Pa, and high turbulent kinetic energy.

Applicant submits that the aforementioned characteristics of gas flow cannot be construed as being disclosed in the Feldbauer patent. Indeed, the disclosure of Feldbauer is acknowledged in the introduction of the patent application and differences have been explained on page 4, lines 14.

Therefore, Claim 18 is believed to be allowable, as are all claims depending therefrom, namely, Claims 19-34.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any suggestions for expediting allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.


If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

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